

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a cross-reference to prior co-pending application Serial No. 09/830,930; to incorporate formula VII and the Reaction Scheme into the text and eliminate Figures 1 and 2; and to renumber Examples 1-9 at pages 12-16 as Examples 13-21 to distinguish from and avoid any confusion with Examples 1-9 at pages 3-9.

Prior to this amendment, Claims 1-12 were in the application.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9-12 have been amended to put them in appropriate U.S. claim format. Claim 1 has been amended to more particularly define Applicants' process in terms of its reaction temperature. Support for the amendment is found in the specification, e.g., at page 2, line 14. Claim 9 has been made dependent from claim 4 rather than claim 1.

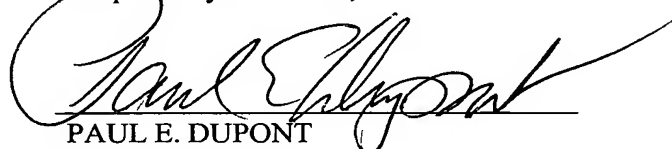
Claim 5, drawn to subject matter allowed in the parent application, has been cancelled. Claim 8 has been cancelled and new claims 13 and 14 have been added to further define Applicants' process in terms of the relative amounts of base and compound of formula (VII) and reaction time. Support for these claims is found, for example, in the specification at pages 13-16, e.g., original Examples 3-6, 8, 9 (claim 13), and at pages 12-16, e.g., original Examples 1-5, 8, 9 (claim 14).

No new matter is added by these amendments.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, and 9-14 are in the application as presently amended.

Date: 11/21/03

Respectfully submitted,


PAUL E. DUPONT
Reg. No. 27,438

Address
Patent Department
Sanofi-Synthelabo Inc.
9 Great Valley Parkway
Malvern, PA 19355
Telephone No. (610) 889-6338
Facsimile: (610) 889-8799